

**PALACE**  
on the  
SPRINGER MEMORIAL STAGE

# A Christmas Carol

## THE MUSICAL

Music by:  
**Alan Menken**  
Lyrics by:  
**Lynn Ahrens**  
Book by:  
**Lynn Ahrens & Mark Ockrent**  
Based on the Story by:  
**Charles Dickens**

Directed by:  
**Clifford Butler**



Graphic Design by:  
Rich Simms

**Show Dates:**

Weekends Nov. 18 to Dec. 30, 2011  
Fridays & Saturdays @ 7:30 pm  
Sundays @ 2:00 pm  
Special weekday shows:  
Dec. 8, 15, 20-22, 26-29 @ 7:30 pm  
Special Saturday Matinees: Dec. 10 & 17 @ 2:00 pm

**Ticket Prices:**

\$24 General  
\$22 Seniors (55+)  
\$14 Active Military  
& Students (13-22)  
\$10 Children (12 & under)

Sponsored by:



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In Historic Georgetown  
Just off the Square...  
(512) 869-7469

[www.thegeorgetownpalace.org](http://www.thegeorgetownpalace.org)

Supported in part by:



**The Cast**

In order of appearance

- A Beadle ..... **David Loper / Art Rodriguez**
- Charity Workers..... **Nicholas Bradford / Catherine Prais**
- ..... **Felix Ferris / Sam Menke**
- ..... **Cody Lippard (Both Casts)**
- Mr. Smythe ..... **Sherman Knetig / Michael Rafferty**
- Grace Smythe ..... **Adele Simms / Brooklyn Britton**
- Scrooge..... **Larry Oubre / Curt Olson**
- Bob Cratchit..... **Ed Hillis / Mark Thornton**
- Martha Cratchit..... **Boni Kokajko / EmiLea Carroll**
- Mrs. Cratchit ..... **Trina Sherman / Martha Hurley**
- Tiny Tim..... **Bella Bartholomew / Joshua Nett**
- Poulterer..... **Felix Ferris / Jonathan Boyd**
- Fred Anderson..... **David Trevino / Jared Hill**
- Jonathon ..... **Andrew Cotter / Clayton Watson**
- Ghost of Christmas Present (Sandwichboard Man) .....
- ..... **Jared Hill / Larry Oubre**
- Ghost of Christmas Past (Lamplighter) .....
- .... **Wendy Jo Cox / Jennifer Tucker / Mary Katherine Kinney (Swing)**
- Ghost of Christmas Yet to Be (Blind Old Hag) .....
- ..... **Jessica Smart / Jennifer Butler**
- Mrs. Mops..... **Karen Soeffker / Maureen Slabaugh**
- Jacob Marley ..... **Richard Dodwell / Chris Bishop**
- Judge..... **David Loper / Brayden Boyd**
- Scrooge at 8..... **Walker Hillis / Zane Briscoe**
- Scrooge's Mother..... **Janet Loper / Martha Hurley**
- Mr. Hawkins ..... **Cody Lippard / Art Rodriguez**
- Scrooge at 12..... **Felix Ferris / Jonathan Boyd**
- Fan at 10..... **Ally Barry / Peyton Givens**
- Fezziwig..... **Chris Bishop / Michael Rafferty**
- Young Ebenezer ..... **Reid Jernigan / Ismael Soto III**
- Young Marley..... **Sherman Knetig (Both casts)**
- Emily..... **Mary Katherine Kinney / CiCi Barone**
- Mrs. Fezziwig..... **Trina Sherman / Ashley Simmons**
- Sally Anderson ..... **Summer Lyn Bryant / Lindsey Jones**
- Old Joe ..... **David Loper / Noel Lovett**



# List of Scenes

1. The Royal Exchange
2. The Streets of London
3. Scrooge's Parlor
4. Scrooge's Bedroom –Night
5. The Law Courts
6. The Factory
7. Mr. Fezziwig's Bank
8. Scrooge & Marley, Ltd.
9. A Starry Night
10. The Streets of London
11. St. Paul's Graveyard
12. Scrooge's Bedroom—Christmas Morning
13. The Streets of London



## PRODUCTION TEAM

*Director / Music Director* ..... Clifford Butler  
*Choreographers* ..... Danny Herman & Rocker Verastique  
*Technical Director* ..... Ronald Watson  
*Costume Design –Adults* ..... Ramona Haass (Ronni Prior, Asst.)  
*Costume Design—Specialty, Ghosts, Children, Teens*.....Tamar Madrigal  
*Props* ..... Ismael Soto III  
*Stage Manager* ..... Faith Castaneda  
*Assistant Stage Manager* .....Carli Werner  
*Lighting Designer*..... Jason Jones  
*Sound Designer / Operator* ..... Rodd Simonsen  
*Orchestra Conductor*..... Samantha Watson, Steve Williams  
*Fly Rail Operator*..... Christopher Castaneda  
*Running Crew* ..... **EmiLea Carrol, Regina Erwin**  
 ..... **Taylor Givens, Heather Smutzer**  
 ..... Jim Mutzabaugh, Isabella Kruger-Seiler, Maria Kruger  
*Set Build Leader* ..... Michael Davis  
*Set Construction*..... John Argersinger, Larry Baird, Ben Beaty  
 ..... Charlie Black, John Carnes, Albert Daniels, Chuck Dawson  
 ..... Bill Gardiner, Ed Harmes, Barb Jernigan, Bob Kostka, Dan Leo  
 ..... Ed McCrary, Jerry Pinero , Richard Stelle, Jim Wilhite, Dave Wright  
*Scenic Artist* ..... Barb Jernigan  
*Set Painters* ..... Barb Jernigan, Sue Williams  
*Poster Design / Video Design* ..... Rich Simms  
*Playbill Design & Preparation* ..... Sonja Asendorf & Marsha Sray  
*Playbill Shell/Cover Design & Preparation*..... Lucas Adams  
*Season Graphic Designer* ..... Barb Jernigan  
*Photographer* ..... Elaine Funk

## Resident Artists & Palace Staff

*Artistic Director* ..... Mary Ellen Butler  
*Associate Artistic Director* ..... Ron Watson  
*Equipment Manager* ..... Jessie Drollette  
*Scenic Artist* ..... Barb Jernigan  
*Operations Chair*..... Sonja Asendorf  
*Office Manager*..... Marsha Sray  
*Office Administrator* ..... Elaine Dobbs  
*Production Administrator* ..... Amy Minor  
*House Managers*..... Monti MacMillan, Jan McCormick, Elaine Dobbs  
*Lobby Computer*..... Allison McKee, Elaine Dobbs



## Ensembles

**Featured Dancers** ..... **Summer Lyn Bryant**  
 ..... **Mary Katherine Kinney, Lena Olevia Owens**  
 ..... **Oceanna Pontejos, Jessica Smart**  
 ..... **Jennifer Butler, Nancy Crandall, Lindsey Jones**  
 ..... **Catherine Prais, Maureen Slabaugh, Abby Spott**  
**Adult & Teen Ensemble** ..... **Nicholas Bradford, Mark Cotter**  
 ..... **Felix Ferris, Catherine Hardman, Reid Jernigan**  
 ..... **Sherman Knetig, Boni Kokajko, Cody Lippard, Addie Loper**  
 ..... **David Loper, Janet Loper, Amy Sherman, Trina Sherman**  
 .. **Adele Simms, Karen Soeffker, David Trevino, Keeley van Allen**  
 ..... **Brayden Boyd, Jonathan Boyd, Brooklyn Britton**  
 ..... **EmiLea Carroll, Carly Fairchild, Jared Hill, Chloe Horne**  
 ..... **Martha Hurley, Emma-Sabrina Kamen, Sherman Knetig**  
 ..... **Cody Lippard, Noel Lovett, Siera Lovett, Sam Menke**  
 ..... **Michael Rafferty, Art Rodriguez, Rachel Saunders**  
 ..... **Ashley Simmons, Ismael Soto III, Ruth Whorton**  
**Children's Ensemble** ..... **Mya Anderson, Ally Barry**  
 ..... **Calliope Bradford, Maggie Bradford, Jayda Cournoyer**  
 ..... **Alexandria Erwin, Elsa Hillis, Walker Hillis, Marilyn Lions**  
 ..... **Mallorie Morrow, Emma Simms, Carl Soeffker**  
 ..... **Zane Briscoe, Berkeley Britton**  
 ..... **Amarys Dean, Peyton Givens, Sydney Iwabuchi**  
 ..... **Andrea Nieves, Daphne Oakden, Diego Rodriguez**  
 ..... **Madeline Rodriguez, Emma Smutzer, Elise Whorton**



A *Christmas Carol, The Musical* is presented through exclusive arrangement with Music Theatre International, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019. This program is supported by an Event Sponsorship Grant made possible by the City of Georgetown and the City of Georgetown Arts and Culture Board. The Palace is a member of the Greater Austin Creative Alliance, the Downtown Georgetown Association, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, and the League of Historic American Theatres.

## ACT I MUSICAL NUMBERS

**Overture**.....  
**Hear The Bells**..... Carolers, Children's Ensemble  
**Jolly Good time**..... Ensemble  
**Charity Men** ..... Charity Workers  
**Nothing to do With Me** ..... Scrooge, Bob Cratchit  
 ..... Ghosts, Tiny Tim, Fred, Jonathon,  
 ..... Grace Smythe, Ensemble  
**Link By Link** ..... Jacob Marley, Ghosts  
**The Lights of Long Ago (Part 1)** ..... Christmas Past  
**Old Bailey** ..... Scrooge's Mother  
**The Lights of Long Ago (Part 2)** ..... Christmas Past  
**The Factory / A Place Called Home (Part 1)** ..... Scrooge at 12  
 ..... Fan at 10, Scrooge  
**Fezziwig's Annual Christmas Ball**..... Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig  
 ..... Scrooge, Christmas Past, Ensemble  
**A Place Called Home (Part 2)** ..... Scrooge, Young Ebenezer,  
 Emily  
**Money Machine Montage** ..... Young Scrooge, Young Marley  
 ..... Christmas Past, Scrooge, Ensemble

## 15 Minute Intermission

## ACT II MUSICAL NUMBERS

**Abundance and Charity** ..... Christmas Present  
**Christmas Together**..... Tiny Tim, Christmas Present  
 ..... Bob Cratchit, Mrs. Cratchit, Fred, Sally  
**Will Tiny Tim Live?** ..... Scrooge  
**Dancing On Your Grave** ..... Scrooge, Beadle, Businessmen  
 ..... Mrs. Mops, Undertakers, Old Joe  
**Yesterday, Tomorrow and Today** .....  
 ..... Scrooge, Children's Ensemble  
**Final Scene, (Part 1, 2, and 3)** ..... Ensemble



## Children's Ensemble

Mya Anderson  
Ally Barry  
Calliope Bradford  
Maggie Bradford



Jayda Cournoyer  
Alexandria Erwin  
Elsa Hillis  
Walker Hillis



Marilyn Lions  
Mallorie Morrow  
Emma Simms  
Carl Soeffker



Zane Briscoe  
Berkeley Britton  
Amarys Dean



Peyton Givens  
Sydney Iwabuchi  
Andrea Nieves  
Daphne Oakden



Diego Rodriguez  
Madeline Rodriguez  
Emma Smutzer  
Elise Whorton



## Company Bios



**CiCi Barone (Emily)** is thrilled to have the opportunity to be a part of this amazing story. CiCi was most recently seen in the Palace Theatre's production of *Wizard of Oz*. CiCi's other favorite roles include Shelby from *Steel Magnolias*, Antonia from *Man of La Mancha*, Crystal Allen from *The Women* and many others. CiCi would like to thank her daughter and family for all their patience and support.



**Bella Bartholomew (Tiny Tim)** is nine years old and was first seen as the spunky orphan Molly in our 2009 production of *Annie*. This sparked her love of theatre and she has since been active in productions with Arts Avenue for Kids including *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *Anne of Green Gables* and *Alice in Wonderland*. Bella enjoys singing, dancing, swimming with the Aquadillos and is active in Girl Scouts and Student Council.



**Chris Bishop (Marley/Fezziwig)** was last seen in 2008's *The Gift of the Magi*. Chris returns to the Palace and reprises his role as Fezziwig from 2007. This time, he also portrays the ghost of Jacob Marley. Chris has been seen in *The Producers*, *Forum*, and *1776*. Off-stage, he sings tenor with the St. John Vianney Church Choir in Round Rock.



**Brayden Chase Boyd (Judge/Ensemble)** is excited to be performing with the Palace again. Previously appearing in *Cinderella the Enchanted* 2010, he has loved seeing old cast friends and making new ones during this show. Brayden would like to thank God, his family for their support, and Starbucks for their willingness to work around schedule and performance conflicts.



**Jonathan Boyd (Poulterer/Scrooge at 12)** is thrilled to be in his second Palace production after appearing as a Monkey in *The Wizard of Oz*. Previous musical experience includes *Godspell* with TKO (a summer musical program) and years of choir. Special thanks to his family for encouraging him and taking him to rehearsals.



**Nicholas Bradford (Ensemble)** is proud to be back on the Palace stage for his Annual Mainstage production. Last year he was Hugo Harty in *Scrooge*. Nicholas has also been in numerous Teen workshops including *Godspell*, *Suessical*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. He is happy to be able to do what he loves to do, with the people he loves. Enjoy the show!



**Brooklyn Britton (Grace Smythe)** is not new to the stage. She most recently appeared as *Annie* at the Woodlawn Theater in San Antonio, Cailloux Theater in Kerrville and Lyric Theater in Brownwood. She also appeared as Hermione in *Harry Potter* at the Magik Theater in San Antonio. Brooklyn is an 8th grader at Victory Life Academy in Brownwood.



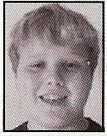
**Summer Lyn Bryant (Sally Anderson)** started dancing only 2 1/2 years ago with Danny and Rocker for *Broadway in May*. Not only did it refuel her passion for acting, but it ignited a new passion for singing and dancing as well. Summer wants to thank all of those involved in the show, friends, family, and especially Danny and Rocker for their explosive inspiration. A special thank you to one of the strongest women she knows, her mom.



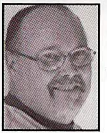
## Company Bios, continued



**Emilea Carroll (Ensemble)** is acting in her first main-stage show at the Palace. She has crewed several shows including: *Cinderella*, *The Sunshine Boys*, *Evita*, and *The Wizard Of Oz*. She is very thankful for the opportunities the palace has given her and would like to thank the palace for helping her explore her theatrical interests and her parents for their support.



**Andrew Cotter (Jonathon)** is a seventh grade honor roll student at Hutto Middle School. He likes sports and writing poetry. Andrew has sung in many voice recitals and has had a voice coach for 3 years. He won the school talent show and was given the lead in his school play. Andrew is interested in acting and theatre and wants to pursue medicine in the future.



**Mark Cotter (Harry)** is transplant to Austin from Boston. Mark is enjoying his roles including one of the drunks. He has always wanted to pursue theatre and acting. He is a long-time computer engineer, turned chef. He has a passion for music and poetry. He especially loves the blues. Mark plays guitar and writes music. He hopes to participate in future shows.



**Wendy Jo Cox (Ghost of Christmas Past)** is excited to be sharing the holidays with you as the Ghost of Christmas Past. Previous roles include Ronnette in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Blanca Duarte/ensemble in *EVITA*, Annie Oakley in *Annie Get Your Gun*, ensemble in *Cinderella*, *Wizard of Oz* and *Snoopy*. She is thrilled to be sharing the stage with so many wonderful and talented people. "Thank you to my friends and family for your abundant love and support! Merry Christmas!"



**Nancy Crandall (Dancer)** is excited to be a part of *A Christmas Carol* as her Palace Theatre debut. Nancy was the owner and director of Backstage Dance School in Austin 1985 - 2010. Her new business, Backstage Productions schedules and produces master classes and workshops for the show's choreographers, Danny Herman and Rocker Verastique. Nancy teaches pilates at Trio Life fitness in Bee Cave. She thanks Danny and Rocker for their encouragement and inspiration.



**Carly Fairchild (Ensemble)** is returning to the Palace stage after a several year hiatus. She is a member of the varsity theater program at her school and plays on the volleyball team. She studies voice under Taylor Weaver, swims on the swim team, is a member of the NJHS, FCA, and her church youth group. She is excited to be performing in Georgetown again and hopes you enjoy the show.



**Catherine Hardman (Ensemble)** is 15 and attends Gateway College Prep school. Palace credits include *Annie*, *Oliver*, and *Cinderella*. She also played roles in workshops including Sarah in *Guys and Dolls Jr*, The Mad Hatter in *Alice in Wonderland*, and Gillian in *The Princess and the Pea*. She thanks her mom and dad for driving her to rehearsals and supporting her every step of the way. She also thanks her grandpa for always supporting and encouraging her interest in theater and music.

## Company Bios, continued



**Jared Hill (Ghost of Christmas Present/Fred)** recently appeared in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* at the Stateside presented by the Palace. Jared is an Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran and is proud to have served his country and the people of Iraq for which he received the Bronze Star. Currently, Jared is pursuing his Masters Degree in History. Theatrical experience includes Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Daddy Warbucks in *Annie*. Jared also participated in the Corpus Christi Ballet production of *Cinderella*.



**Ed Hillis (Bob Cratchit)** is pleased to be a part of *A Christmas Carol* and to share the experience with his awesome, elfish children, Elsa and Walker. At the Palace, he has had the time of his life playing in *Annie*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Wedding Singer* and *EVITA*. He thanks this wonderful theater for making a little Christmas magic every December and his lovely wife, Amy, for everything else. "Happy holidays everyone!"



**Martha Hurley (Mrs. Cratchit / Scrooge's Mother)** is thrilled to begin her third season at the Palace. She was recently seen in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* in Austin. Previous shows include *EVITA*, *Joseph...*, and *Scrooge* (Mrs. Cratchit - a part she enjoyed so much she decided to do it again this year!). She thanks Cliff for her first solos on the Palace stage and Katherine for the confidence to be ready for them. "Merry Christmas, and God bless us every one!"



**Reid Jernigan (Young Ebenezer)** has been performing at the Palace since he was 12. Last seen in last year's *Scrooge*, he's looking forward to entertaining holiday audiences once again. When he's not doing theatre, he's writing and performing folk music.



**Lindsey Jones (Sally Anderson/Dancer)** is thrilled to be back at the Palace. She was last seen as a featured dancer in the Gala. Lindsey is working on getting her teacher's certification in dance and English from Texas State University. She would like to thank her family and friends for being absolutely wonderful. "Enjoy the show and have a very merry Christmas!"



**Mary Katherine Kinney (Emily/Christmas Past Swing)** is a theatre student at St. Edward's University. Favorite roles, include the Mother in Butler Community School's *Magic in Manhattan*, Mrs. Darling in *Peter Pan*, and Babette in The Christian Choral Society's production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. Along with stage performance, Mary Katherine has sung at many community and charity events around Austin. She has enjoyed being a part of *A Christmas Carol* and The Palace Theater family.



**Sherman Knetig (Mr. Smythe/Young Marley -both casts)** is in his third show at the Palace, previously seen in *The Wedding Singer* and *The Sunshine Boys*. He holds a BFA in Theater from Tarleton State. He has also been in *Guys and Dolls* and *The Fantasticks*. He would like to thank both casts for a wonderful time. Thanks to his family and friends and to that special someone in his life for supporting him in what he loves to do.



## Company Bios, continued



**Boni Kokajko (Martha Cratchit)** is thrilled to participate in another Christmas show! Previously seen in *Annie*, *The Music Man*, *Oliver!*, *Gospel Accordin' to Texas*, *Guys and Dolls Jr.*, *Godspell*, and *Cinderella*. Boni enjoys singing, dancing and acting with her fellow thespians. She would like to thank her parents, Phil and Sara Kokajko, and her boyfriend, Justin Stephens, for their love and support.



**Cody Lippard (Ensemble –both casts)** is thrilled to be working with the Palace again. Last seen as the hero Bronco Slim in *Showdown at Bittercreek Saloon* in Leander and in the ensemble cast of *EVITA* here in Georgetown. Cody continues to pursue a degree in Arts at ACC with hopes to continue his Arts education. Cody sends special thanks out to his friends and family who continuously and tirelessly support and encourage his artistic endeavors.



**Addie Loper (Ensemble)** began performing at the Palace when she was 7 in the chorus of *Hello Dolly*. She played Tootie in *Meet Me In St. Louis*, Pepper in *Annie* as well as parts for *A Christmas Carol*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Scrooge*. During Palace Summer workshops she's played Charlie in *Willie Wonka*, Cinderella in *Cinderella* and Aladdin in *Aladdin*. She studies Ballet and is on pointe at her Mother's studio, The Georgetown Conservatory of Dance.



**David Loper (Beadle)** is a Chiropractor in Georgetown who had secretly longed to act. His first opportunity came when accompanying wife-Janet's audition at the Palace for *Hello Dolly*. She said "Why not just try-out?" He got a part, caught the theatre-bug and the rest is history. He's now been in twelve Palace productions. It's a great change of scene from the clinic and is a great way to meet wonderful, talented, diverse, friendly folks from the area while developing new skills and having some fun.



**Janet Loper (Scrooge's Mother)** is happy to be working with this cast and crew. She has performed in *Hello Dolly*, *Anything Goes*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Big River*, *Scrooge*, *Wizard of OZ* and others. Janet holds degrees in dance and education and is Artistic Director of the Georgetown Conservatory of Dance. She is happy to be performing with her husband David and daughter Addie and she sends her love to Alex, Ashlyn, Joey and Aley-Grace.



**Noel Lovett (Ensemble)** likes to do crosswords puzzles and go to the movies in his spare time. While in Pasadena Texas, he sang in the Living Christmas Tree for three years at First Baptist Church and also starred in a play at Memorial Baptist Church. He last performed as a Nazi soldier, in *Cabaret*.



**Siera Lovett (Ensemble)** is a home-schooled sophomore, slightly outgoing, and definitely a family girl. She enjoys writing and loves animals. She considers herself a "tom girl," very adventurous, but never misses the chance to dress in high heels. In her spare time she enjoys hanging with her friends or at the barn training her horse. She has been in a few small performances; this is her first show with The Palace.

## Company Bios, continued



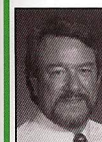
**Sam Menke (Ensemble)** is a freshman at Hendrickson High School and is ecstatic to be performing in his twelfth production at the Palace. Past favorites include *Joseph/Dreamcoat*, *The Wizard of OZ*, *Annie* and much, much more. Not only does Sam participate in the year-round performances, but he has also been in the summer workshops for youth and teens which include Jimmy Smith in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Jim Hawkins in *Treasure Island*, etc. Much love and thanks go to parents, family, and friends.



**Joshua Nett (Tiny Tim)** is making his first appearance in a main stage production at the Palace Theater. Josh started performing in the Palace's summer workshop program at age 7. He is a member of the Williamson County Jubilate Youth Choir and the Williams Elementary School Choir. Josh would like to thank Mr. Votolato for his vocal coaching assistance and his mom for all the hours she worked with him to prepare for this role.



**Curt Olson (Scrooge)** is thrilled to return to the Palace stage reprising the role of Ebenezer Scrooge from four years ago. Other Palace roles include Jacob Marley -*Scrooge*, King - *Big River*, Roger Sherman - *1776*. Curt is Director of Music Ministries at Bethany United Methodist Church. Before moving to Austin, Curt sang with the Sun State Opera in Florida. Other credits include lead roles in *Brigadoon*, *Carousel*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Curt is married and has two sons.



**Dr. Larry Oubre (Scrooge /Ghost of Christmas Present)** has a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Vocal Performance from UT Austin. This year he has appeared in *Henry V* with the Baron's Men, *Hamlet* with the Austin Drama Club, *Macbeth 1966* at the Vortex and *Echoes of Ireland* at the Bastrop Opera House. He has taught voice for UT, Round Rock ISD and AISD. His students have appeared with local operas and theaters including Zilker Summer Musical, the Long Center, the Vortex, Ballet Austin, Paramount Theater and Zach Scott Theater programs.



**Lena Owens (Dancer /Ensemble)** is 15 years old and has been dancing for 13 years. She has danced with Ballet Austin for 9 years and the Ballet Austin's Butler Community School for 4. Lena is thankful for her parents for their support and transportation, and her Grandmother, brother, family and friends for all their love and support. "It's such a great opportunity to work with Cliff, Danny, and Rocker."



**Oceanna Pontejos (Ensemble/Dancer)** is in her second musical appearance. She also performed in Ballet Austin's *Broadway in May* earlier this year. She has been a dancer at Ballet Austin's academy since she was 7 years old, and has performed in 6 seasons of *The Nutcracker*. Her interests include frogs, violin, writing and manga/anime. She is hoping to pursue a career in musical theater and Herpetology. She would like to thank her mothers for all their love and support.



## Company Bios, continued



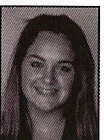
**Catherine Prais (Charity Worker/Dancer)** is a junior at Georgetown High School and is making her fifth appearance with the Palace. Previous credits include *Annie*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Oliver*, and *Meet Me in St. Louis*. Catherine was a member of Showstoppers, a youth performance troupe at ZACH Theatre. In addition she has been involved with Theater at the J. Catherine sings with GHS choir and has private vocal training with Adam Roberts. Catherine would like to thank her family for their support.



**Michael Rafferty (Mr. Smythe/Mr. Fezziwig)** is enjoying his very first full length musical. He has always been a singer and after a long hiatus raising children he restarted his performing career with his sons in Ballet Austin's Musical Theater performance workshops. Michael is an enthusiastic student of the choreographers Danny Herman and Rocker Verastique. Michael is an MCSE and works for Polycom, Inc. in the IT department.



**Art Rodriguez (Beadle)** is pleased to return to the Palace stage after a brief hiatus to be a Dad. He began acting at the Palace 12 years ago when he originated the role of the Rev. A.A. Davis in *You Can't Do That, Dan Moody!* Some of Art's credits include *Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, *Rumors*, and *Deathtrap*. Art is especially pleased to share the stage for the first time with his daughter, Madeline, and son, Diego. "Thanks to their Mom and my wife for her support."



**Rachel Saunders (Ensemble)** returns to the Palace, having last performed in the Children's Chorus of *The Music Man* when she was 6 years old. She was first seen on stage as the youngest orphan in Sam Bass Community Theatre's production of *Annie*. She is excited to be working with Cliff and proud to be part of such a great cast. She thanks her parents for their support and, of course, transportation between home and the theatre.



**Amy Sherman (Ensemble)** is thrilled to be performing in her 4th palace show after appearing in *EVITA* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie JR*, and as Mushu in this years Summer Workshop production of *Mulan*. She would like to thank her family for their support and especially her Mom who shares the stage with her again.



**Trina Sherman (Mrs. Cratchit/Mrs. Fezziwig)** is performing in her 5th show at the Palace. Most recently seen in the Palace's run of *DRS* at the State theatre in Austin, Trina is very excited to be back at the Palace with a very talented cast! She keeps busy during the day with Autism-related activities and writing for the Palace newsletter. Trina is pleased to also be on stage again with her daughter Amy, and would like to thank everyone for their support.



**Ashley Simmons (Mrs. Fezziwig)** is happy and grateful to be a part of the cast for *A Christmas Carol*. Though music has always been a part of her life, she last sung on stage in '92. So for her, this is a dream come true! When not singing, Ashley enjoys practicing acupuncture and Chinese Medicine in Round Rock. Lots of love goes out to Danny, Mom, Shawn, Family, and Friends for always believing in her.

## Company Bios, continued



**Adele Simms (Grace Smythe)** is ecstatic to be back at The Palace for her second production of *A Christmas Carol*. She has been in eight other Main Stage shows, including *EVITA*, *Cinderella* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Favorite roles include Annie in *Annie* and Young Mourner in *EVITA*. She would like to thank The Palace for giving young people the opportunity to perform in such a high profile venue.



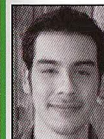
**Maureen Klein Slabaugh (Mrs. Mops/Dancer)** is new to Georgetown Palace and the Austin area via Seattle, WA. Favorite roles include: Madame Arcati in *Blythe Spirit*, Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, Oiusa in *Six Degrees of Separation*, Ruella/ Bianca in *Kiss Me Kate*. "Many Thanks go out to new friends and fellow cast and crew mates of *A Christmas Carol* for making the process fun and creative. Special thanks to Danny, Rocker and most important, husband Kevin Slabaugh."



**Jese Smart (Ghost of Christmas Yet to Be/Dancer/Dance Captain)** is originally from Chicago, IL. Jese has been a part of the Georgetown Palace family since November 2007. She has a Bachelor of the Fine Arts – Dance Performance and a Bachelor of Science – Human Resources from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL where she was the Executive Producer of Art For Life, a multi art benefit concert for the AIDS foundation of Chicago. She wishes everyone a wonderful holiday season.



**Karen Soeffker (Mrs. Mops)** has always wanted to be part of a play and was encouraged to audition by her 6 year-old son who is also cast. A seasoned actor himself after appearing in *The Wizard Of Oz* he reminded his Mom of her own words: Follow your dreams and always try your best! Karen would like to thank her son for inspiring her every single day and her husband who tirelessly supports every crazy idea she has ever had!



**Ismael Soto III (Young Ebenezer)** is thrilled to be a part of such a talented cast. He was most recently seen in *Cabaret* as Ernst Ludwig, and as part of the ensemble in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Other roles include John Proctor in Arthur Millers *The Crucible* and Cal Jarrett in *Ordinary People* based both on the 1980 film and the 1976 novel of the same name by Judith Guest. He thanks God and his loving family for their unending support. "Happy Holidays."



**Abby Spott (Ensemble/Dancer)** has entertained audiences since she was 7, when she tapped her heart out to Yellow Submarine at her first dance recital. She currently trains in tap, ballet and vocals. She enjoys musical theatre and has performed in such Ballet Austin productions as *Magic in Manhattan* and *Broadway in May*. She has also appeared with the Ballet Austin company in Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. When not performing, Abby enjoys reading and crocheting for charity.



## Company Bios, continued



**Mark Thornton (Bob Cratchit)** is a lawyer who practiced in Dallas and then in Austin for a number of years. He's also the author of the Paid Piper Series: Rat-a-tat-tat, HickoryDickoryDock, and Pay the Piper, available in local bookstores. He lives in Georgetown where he performs for clubs and charity benefits. This is his first time at the Palace. You can see some of his show, *An Evening of Magic and Music*, on youtube.



**David Trevino (Fred/Scrooge's Father)** is enjoying his first-ever performance on any stage since his youth, singing in a Catholic boys choir. He's been a fan of the theater, enjoyed watching shows in New York. He's enjoyed learning what goes on behind the curtains to put on a show. He would like to thank his fiancé (Arden Baxter) for encouraging him to "go for it" and try out for the show - it's been a blast!



**Jennifer Tucker (Ghost of Christmas Past)** is thrilled to be performing her second musical at the Palace. She was last seen on this stage in *EVITA*. Jennifer has performed in many productions, including *Beauty and the Beast* at Zilker Park and *The Mikado* with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society. Other credits include *Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *My Fair Lady*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Sound of Music*, *Die Zauberflöte*, *Le nozze di Figaro*. She holds a doctorate from UT in vocal pedagogy and teaches voice lessons in Georgetown.



**Keeley van Allen (Ensemble)** is making her theatrical debut at the Palace Theater. She is a Dyami dancer at Canyon Ridge Middle School and plays Tenor Saxophone in the band. Acting runs deep in her family, her grandfather Dirk van Allen, is a well known actor in the Austin theater scene.



**Clayton Watson (Jonathan)** is a Georgetown-area fourth grader making his Palace Theater debut. His past performances include the role of the Husband in *Rapunzel*, and Captain of the Guards in *The Near Sighted Knight and The Far Sighted Dragon*, both with the Georgetown Youth Theater. Clayton performed the National Anthem at the Wilmer, Alabama 4th of July Community Picnic in July. Clayton enjoys singing in his school choir, playing with his friends, reading, and video games.



**Ruth Whorton (Ensemble)** is thrilled to be part of the cast of *A Christmas Carol* along with her sister, Elise. She has been on stage at the Palace Theater in *Annie* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Ruth is an eighth-grader at Tippit Middle School in Georgetown where she plays the oboe and is on the basketball and tennis teams. She is active in the youth group at First Baptist, Georgetown and sings with the youth band.

## Production Team Bios

**Clifford Butler (Director/Music Director)** previous directing credits at the Palace include *Anything Goes!*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (abridged), *CATS*, *A Little Night Music*, and most recently, *EVITA*. He has also directed *The Fantasticks* and *Man of La Mancha* with Sam Bass Community Theatre in Round Rock, and has been the musical director for several productions, including *The Sound of Music*, *The Music Man*, *Oliver!*, *1776*, and *Grease*. He has even found time to be on stage, most recently as Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Judas in *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Cliff works as a data analyst with Dell and does freelance work as a web developer, including work on the Palace's website.

**Mary Ellen Butler (Artistic Director)** has been Artistic Director for the Palace since mid-2004; as Artistic Director, she produces the season and directs many shows, the most recent being *Wait Until Dark*. She also directed the hit musical *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* at the Palace and recently remounted the show at Stateside at the Paramount in Austin to great critical acclaim. She directed *Cinderella*, *The Enchanted*, as well as *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Annie*, both from the 2009-10 Season. Mary Ellen is also in charge of the year-round Theatrical Workshops for Youth.

**Ron Watson (Associate Artistic Director)** has been a director for the Palace since 1999. His most recent production as director was *The Wizard of Oz*, preceded by *Cabaret*. Favorite productions include *Man of La Mancha*, *Grease*, *Nunsense*, *A Funny Thing Happened...*, *1776*, *A Few Good Men*, and *Noises Off*. Ron was Technical Director for the Palace for four seasons before becoming Associate Artistic Director in 2009-10. Ron holds a BFA in Directing from SWTSU (now Texas State).

**Danny Herman and Rocker Verastique (Choreographers)** are internationally recognized directors, choreographers, actors, and teachers. Both have vast credits in Broadway productions, national and European tours, Ballet Company engagements, and Regional Theatre. Danny began his career as the Purple Panda on Mister Rogers' Neighborhood and went on to co-direct and co-choreograph the acclaimed *Dreamgirls - the 20th Anniversary Benefit Concert* for The Actors' Fund and choreographed the 1987 national tour of *Dreamgirls*. Rocker danced six years with artistic director Mikhail Baryshnikov in American Ballet Theatre, spent four years on the television series *Fame*, and was the male lead in the award-winning music video *Nasty* opposite Janet Jackson.

(Danny & Rocker bios continued on following page)



## Production Team Bios, continued

**Danny Herman and Rocker Verastique (Continued)** Since moving to Austin, Danny and Rocker have choreographed *The Pajama Game* (B. Iden Payne Award), *City of Angels*, *Bobrauschenbergamerica*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Eurydice*, and (currently) *Carousel* (Mary Moody Theatre, Saint Edward's University); *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *The Fantasticks*, *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, and (currently) *Stop The World I Want To Get Off* (Austin Playhouse); *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Once On This Island*, and *Anything Goes* (McCallum High School); as well as *Deep Waters* and *Benny* (Ballet East). Danny and Rocker are looking forward to Directing and Choreographing *A Chorus Line* this season here at the Palace.

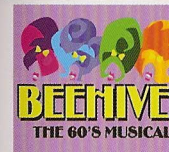
**Faith Castaneda (Stage Manager)** This show begins her fifth season at The Palace and loves being a part of this talented theatre community. Faith's BFA in Theatre from Tarleton State University has been more useful than ever here in Georgetown and is always up for a new challenge. Her favorites of the 13 shows she has stage managed at The Palace are *The Wizard of Oz*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Wedding Singer* and *Grease!* She'd like to thank Christopher and her mom for their support for her passion!

**Tamar Madrigal (Specialty Costume Designer)** is thrilled to be on her fifth production at the Palace. She began last season and has worked on costumes and/or props for *Cabaret*, *Wait Until Dark*, *Wizard of Oz*, the Children's Summer Workshops and this season's *Beehive*. She received her BA in Theatre from Texas Tech University and she would like to thank everyone at the Palace as well as the love of her life, Brandon, for always encouraging her to follow happiness.

**Jason Jones (Lighting Designer)** is the owner of SixtyTwenty Lighting, an automated lighting rental, leasing, consultation, and design company based out of Amarillo and Austin, Texas. He began his career as the house Lighting Designer at Trinity Fellowship Church in Amarillo. While at Trinity, he had the opportunity to learn from the industry's leading professionals in studios in Los Angeles and New York City. Jason has worked all over Texas on various theatre, church, and television production, and he currently serves as the Technical Director for Gateway Church's South Campus in Austin. He is also the Lighting Director for *Marriage Today with Jimmy and Karen Evans* which is syndicated across the nation weekly. This is Jason's first show at The Palace.

**Carli Werner (Assistant Stage Manager)** is thrilled to be working on her first production at Georgetown Palace Theater. Recent credits include ASM for Austin Lyric Opera's *The Magic Flute*, deck crew for Austin Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Scenic Designer for TexART's [title of show], and ASM for Zilker Theater Production's *Footloose*. Carli graduated from St. Edward's University in May with a B.A. in Theater Arts and Scenic Design. Thanks to Mom, Dad, Kristin, and Kevin for all their love, understanding, and support.

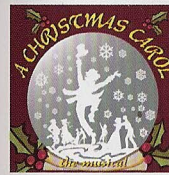
## THE PALACE THEATRE 2011 ~ 2012 SEASON



### *BEEHIVE, The 60's Musical Sensation*

Created By Larry Gallagher

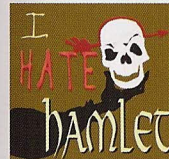
Sept. 23 ~ Oct. 23, 2011



### *A Christmas Carol, The Musical*

By Alan Menken, Lynn Ahrens, and Mike Ockrent

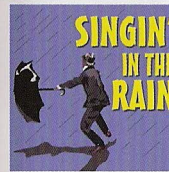
Nov. 18 ~ Dec. 30, 2011



### *I Hate Hamlet*

By Paul Rudnick

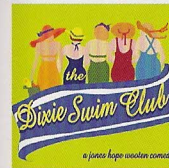
Jan. 13 ~ Feb. 5, 2012



### *Singin' In The Rain*

By Betty Comden, Adolph Green,  
Nacio Herb Brown, Arthur Freed

Feb. 24 ~ March 25, 2012



### *The Dixie Swim Club*

By Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten

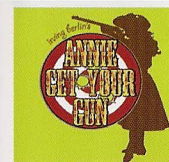
April 6 ~ April 29, 2012



### *Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story*

By Alan Janes

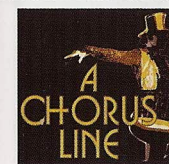
May 11 ~ June 10, 2012



### *Annie Get Your Gun*

By Irving Berlin, Dorothy Fields, Herbert Fields

June 29 ~ July 29, 2012



### *A CHORUS LINE*

By Marvin Hamlisch, Edward Kleban, James Kirkwood,  
Nicholas Dante. Conceived and originally directed on  
Broadway by Michael Bennett.

Aug. 10 ~ Sept. 9, 2012

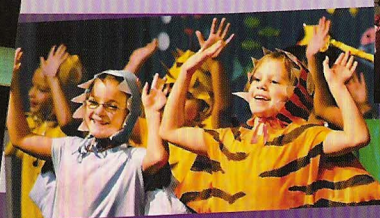




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